

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An attenuated *Salmonella* strain comprising a eukaryotic expression vector ~~for the expression of a heterologous DNA gene or heterologous gene fragment or an autologous gene or autologous gene fragment~~ comprising a eukaryotic promoter and a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide, wherein said nucleic acid is under the control of an said eukaryotic promoter, wherein the attenuation is suitable for a vaccination of a vertebrate vertebrates, and wherein vaccination of said vertebrate with said attenuated *Salmonella* strain results in expression of said polypeptide by said vertebrate and generates an immune response by said vertebrate to said polypeptide.
2. (previously presented) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 1, wherein the strain is a *S. typhimurium* strain.
3. (previously presented) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 2, wherein the strain is selected from the group consisting of *S. typhimurium* aroA SL 7207, *S. typhimurium* LT2, and *S. typhimurium* aroA544 (ATCC Accession No. 33275).
4. (previously presented) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 1, wherein the strain is a *S. typhi* strain.
5. (previously presented) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 4, wherein the strain is *S. typhi* Ty21a.
6. (previously presented) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 1, wherein the eukaryotic expression vector is derived from plasmid pCMV β , wherein the plasmid comprises:
 - a) a structural gene of β -galactosidase (β -gal) under the control of a human cytomegalovirus (CMV) immediate early promoter,
 - b) a splice donor,

- c) two splice acceptor sites between the promoter and the β -galactosidase gene, and
- d) a polyadenylation site of SV40.

7-8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide ~~heterologous gene~~ is selected from the group consisting of an *Escherichia coli*- β -galactosidase, ~~gene (lacZ gene), a gene (hly gene) encoding a non-hemolytic truncated *Listeria monocytogenes*-listeriolysin, and a gene (actA gene) encoding a truncated *Listeria monocytogenes*-actA~~ polypeptide.

10. (previously presented) A vaccine comprising the *Salmonella* strain of claim 1.

11-16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 1, wherein the ~~gene or gene fragment encodes a~~ encoded polypeptide is capable of inducing an antibody response and a T-cell response, wherein the T-cell response comprises production of CD8 T-cells and CD4 T-cells.

18. (currently amended) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 1, wherein the ~~gene or gene fragment encodes a~~ encoded polypeptide is capable of inducing an antibody response and a T-cell response, wherein the antibody response comprises production of IgG1, IgG2, and ~~or~~ IgA antibodies.

19. (previously presented) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 1, wherein the vertebrates are humans.

20. (previously presented) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 1, wherein *Salmonella* is orally administered.

21. (previously presented) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 18, wherein the antibody response is induced after a single immunization.

22. (previously presented) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 17, wherein the T-cell response is induced after a single immunization.

23. (currently amended) The *Salmonella* strain of claim 9 ~~4~~, wherein the polypeptide ~~heterologous gene is a gene (hly gene) encoding a non-hemolytic truncated~~ *Listeria monocytogenes*-listeriolysin polypeptide ~~gene (hly gene)~~.